

## **6825, Randolph Central School Corp**

### **PROJECT ABSTRACT**

Randolph Central School Corporation proposes a collaborative technology and professional development initiative with our neighboring district, Randolph Eastern School Corporation, to facilitate shared opportunities and develop technology leaders in each building for the following goals: expand offerings and student participation in Advanced Placement/Dual Credit science and math courses, implement alternative energy course offerings, improve graduation and college participation rates through higher level courses and enriched experiences, provide effective credit recovery options, offer appropriate remediation experiences, improve teachers and students knowledge in science, mathematics, and language arts, develop the expertise for and expect the use of integrated technology with regard to student learning, and enhance parent and community involvement with students learning.

Both corporations have assessed the need for additional upper level courses for our high school students since there are perceived gaps at both districts. In 2009-2010, Eastern had 11 students in AP Calculus, 14 in ACP History, 12 in IU Composition, and 14 in IU Literature. There were not enough Eastern students signed up to justify physics, IU Visual Arts, or AP Statistics. At Randolph Central, we offered: AP English with 24 students, ACP Advanced Math with 23, ACP Finite Math with 13 students, I. U.'s W131 with 34 students, and 19 students in A202. For AP Environmental science, there were only 10 students, 3 students in AP U. S. History, and 3 students in AP Calculus. Both corporations have teachers trained to teach higher level courses and projects; however, the enrollment is often low in mathematics and science courses. By collaborating and implementing distance learning, one teacher would have enough enrollment numbers to warrant teaching the course which is a step in the right direction for greater opportunities for students. It has been shown that advanced coursework/dual credit coursework at the high school level increases college attendance and success rates. Participation percentages will be tracked to assess the gains. Further, as we strive to improve the success of students by improving our graduation rates with enhanced curriculum and opportunities, specific technology programs that address credit recovery and remediation are an immediate need for our secondary students, particularly in science, mathematics, and language arts. In addition, since Randolph Eastern has a very successful community-based radio and television program, we would like to include that in the partnership to expand the mass communication opportunities for Randolph Central students while enhancing Eastern's program with this collaborative process; both communities will benefit from their learning and community-based projects that shall include the alternative energy projects in Randolph County, particularly the wind energy project at Randolph Eastern; it will be a cutting-edge opportunity for students who are interested in and/or pursuing that field especially since alternative energy has "broken ground" in Randolph County. Additionally, instructional resources and technology tools that develop and enhance critical thinking skills, effective questioning techniques, problem solving skills, and integrating various core academic skills with higher level thinking skills in all content areas are necessary components of our proposal because the lack of those refined skills are contributing to our inability to consistently achieve Adequate Yearly Progress for our students. To ensure the success of the proposal, a professional development plan is proposed to support our collaborative efforts for students and to build staff leadership.